Experience of the University of Macau Library During the Covid-19 Pandemic:
Rethinking from the Collections

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Success is best when it’s shared

--Howard D. Schultz, former Starbucks CEO

Effective sharing and collaboration is the key to success during times of crisis.
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Background Information
About University of Macau

- The only internationalized public comprehensive university in Macao
- Main medium of instruction: English; Some programs in Chinese or Portuguese
- 80% of its faculty members from outside Macao

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<th>Mainland China</th>
<th>Portugal</th>
<th>U.S.A.</th>
<th>Canada</th>
<th>Australia</th>
<th>Singapore</th>
<th>Others</th>
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<tr>
<td>60.8%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
<td>8.2%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>9.1%</td>
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Founded In 1981 | Students 10,000+ | Academic Staff 600+ | Asia University Rankings 37th | World University Rankings 301st - 350th | International Outlook 6th
About University of Macau

A unique ‘4-in-1’ education: discipline-specific education, general education, research and internship education, and community and peer education.

Teaching Units
✔ Faculty of Arts and Humanities*
✔ Faculty of Business Administration
✔ Faculty of Education*
✔ Faculty of Health Sciences
✔ Faculty of Law*
✔ Faculty of Social Sciences*
✔ Faculty of Science and Technology
✔ Honours College
✔ Graduate School
✔ Centre for Continuing Education

Research institutes
❖ Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences*
❖ Institute of Applied Physics and Materials Engineering
❖ Institute of Collaborative Innovation
❖ Institute of Microelectronics
❖ Centre for Macau Studies
❖ Asia-Pacific Academy of Economics and Management
❖ Institute of Advanced Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences

3 State key laboratories
❑ State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine
❑ State Key Laboratory of Analog and Mixed-Signal VLSI
❑ State Key Laboratory of Internet of Things for Smart City

10 residential colleges

2 Macao Bases
 Primary & Secondary Education in Humanities & Social Sciences
 Primary & Secondary STEM Education

*With programs in Chinese language;
@With programs in Portuguese language
UM Library resources at a Glance

- **Print Books**
  - 790,000 Volumes

- **eBooks**
  - 760,000 Volumes

- **Print Journals**
  - 6,000 Titles

- **E-Journals**
  - 100,000 Titles

- **Databases**
  - 260 Items

- **E-theses**
  - 11,100,000 Titles

Total stocks of **12.6 million items/vols**
Physical Collection by Language

- Chinese: 49.05%
- English: 45.67%
- Portuguese: 3.42%
- French: 0.51%
- Spanish: 0.41%
- Other: 0.94%
About 20,000 Chinese thread-bound books, including 3 rare books (dating back to the Ming Dynasty) listed in the National Rare Books Catalogue of China.

- 新編纂註資治通鑑外紀增義 五卷 資治通鑑釋例一卷
  明弘治正德間刻本

- 重校正唐文粹: 一百卷．
  明嘉靖3年徐燦刻本 辛耀文跋

- 宗忠簡公文集二卷
  明萬曆33年
• Historia de las Cosas mas Notables, Ritos y Costumbres, del Gran Reyno dela China (大中華帝國史) published in 1585 in Spanish


• The Chinese Repository (中國叢報) a periodical published in Canton between May 1832 and 1851. The world's first major journal of Sinology.
Library Services and Responses to Pandemic
The local Government organized a 24-hour Novel Coronavirus Emergency Coordination Center & a Special Webpage against Epidemics.

Staff resumed work on shift.

Staff resumed work as normal schedule.

UM partially resumed classes.

The UM Library re-opened to the university staff and students.

Allowed 500 concurrent readers in the Library; extended the due date for readers until Sep 9.

Allowed 300 concurrent readers in the Library; extended the due date for readers until Sep 9.

Early Jan

Jan 21

Early Feb

Feb 17

Mar 2

Apr 20

Sep 1

Early Jan

Macau people heard about the pandemic

Jan 21

Online Zoom classes

Feb 17

Mar 2

Apr 20

Sep 1

Allowed 500 concurrent readers in the Library; extended the due date for readers until Sep 9.
UM Library Responses to Pandemic

- Keep learning +
- Meet information resources needs
  - Online access to Library resources
  - Integrating open access resources
  - Promoting information literacy and preparing classes, Zoom, MOOC, etc.
  - Arranging and enhancing the use of physical items
  - Collaborating with vendors, publishers, etc.
  - Collaborating with libraries in the region and worldwide
  - Extend and smoothen mutual communication channels with stakeholders

Health and safety measures
- Social distancing
- Disinfection of facilities
- Body temperature checks
- Wearing masks
- Health literacy
- Health policies and rules
- More

Stay in touch with library users, faculties, library staff and its management, vendors, local government, etc.

Closer inter-library services and cooperation. -- MALA Hub ILL services launched 2020.

To enhance library value

To make use of toc, chapter scanning, etc.; customized book loan services

To arrange special access methods or contents, free of charge or paid.

Online instruction workshops and videos.

To integrate and deliver high quality open access academic resources

Secured network infrastructure and authentication

To arrange special access methods or contents, free of charge or paid.
MALA Hub provides one stop search of the nine academic libraries in Macau for book loan and article request.
Relevant articles for reference


https://library.um.edu.mo/lib_info/list_libnews_en/display?id=1&ch=t&l=ch&i=596
Library Collections and Use During Pandemic
Launch of Cultural Study of Chinese Dragon Database

Awards Ceremony of Japan Essay Contest 2020

A Talk on Drama and Fiction

Staff Art Works Exhibitions
Library Collections and its Use During Pandemic

Note: Usage includes number of searches and downloads.
Library Collections and its Use During Pandemic

Chinese Information Resources has been becoming more popular among end users of UM.

Top 5 High-Usage Databases 2020

1. 中國知網
2. Web of Science
3. 北大法寶
4. 讀秀
5. ScienceDirect

Among users who borrowed books, printed book loans per capita was 6 in 2020.
E-Books Market Worldwide

Libraries provide online resources to their users free of charge.

Analyst Opinion (Statista): In comparison to physical books, eBooks are often sold for quite high prices, and consumers do not actually benefit from the cost reduction that comes from low printing and distribution expenses. This circumstance curbs the eBooks market’s growth potential heavily, although the general adaption among consumers is still consistently growing.

Source: Statista. Retrieved on 14 Mar 2021
Ways Forward
Future Challenges

• Global economy impact of Covid 19
  -- Staff layoffs, budget cuts. etc.?  
• A paradigm shift in your user reading attitudes and behaviors?
• High cost of library e-resources
• How to integrate scholarly communication perspectives into libraries to create value?
• Other innovative services for the library industry
Thank you!

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